



President's Brownbag Notes

Dr. Curt Freed, President

October 4, 2023, 12:00 p.m. via WebEx

- 1) Participants: 45
- 2) Curt extended a welcome to the newest staff (Anthony Chavez Alvidrez – Student Life Coordinator and Gavin Fitzgerald – STEM Coach). Upcoming new employees include Sheila Roth, College Store Assistant, who starts October 16, and ShiLyn Provencio, the new Director of HR who starts November 1. Curt noted that the Registrar position has been posted. There will also be new positions posted relating to the new Title V grant.
- 3) MCC was awarded its second Title V grant. This grant, titled MCC Innovating Careers, Access and Student Achievement, or “MI CASA” for short, will provide \$2,903,964 over five years. Funding started October 1, 2023, and will be used to enhance career and transfer readiness as well as student success. Curt noted that this grant team is separate from the Title V team that Vanesa Sanchez leads.
- 4) The college is continuing to look for facility space in the Bennett area. MCC has also renewed a search for a Bennett Coordinator. MCC leadership recently visited a potential property in Wray and is evaluating the cost it would take to renovate it.
- 5) The MCC Foundation is hosting a reception in Founders Room October 5 at 3:00 p.m. to honor scholarship donors and recipients.
- 6) MCC partnered with the City of Fort Morgan on a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy to give away 30 e-bikes to local residents who met eligibility requirements. The bikes were purchased locally. Twenty-five of the e-bikes were given out at an event on campus Saturday, September 30.
- 7) The City will be providing \$120K of support toward groundwork and utilities development for the Dahms-Talton Center for Skilled Trades and Technology. Some of the support will help MCC transition to a master metering set up.
- 8) Christiane Olivo submitted a proposal to the Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence (S-I-R) Program to host a Scholar in Residence from Mexico or El Salvador during the 2024-2025 academic year. The SIR would teach at MCC as well as engage with the community. The Fulbright review committee has recommended that MCC’s proposal move forward to the “matchmaking” phase to see if an appropriate scholar is available. Christiane noted that she requested a scholar with expertise in history.
- 9) The Annual Clery Security Report (a federal requirement) has been completed and posted on the MCC website. Curt noted that MCC rarely has crime statistics to report due to the college’s size and absence of athletics and dorms.

- 10) Registration slots are still available for the NISOD Regional Workshop opportunity at MCC on November 17. The topic is "Empowering Educators: Strategies for Creating Inclusive Environments and Student Success across Diverse Populations." As of October 2, 17 more registrants are needed by October 20 or NISOD will cancel the event. Instructors can be paid for their time to attend as well as receive mileage reimbursement.
- 11) The annual Colorado Combined Campaign is open, which provides an opportunity for MCC and other State employees to provide financial support to non-profit organizations locally and across the state. Contributions can be set up as a payroll deduction. MCC's campaign ends December 29. Employees should reference an email from Jane Fries on October 3 for more information. Those who donate will be entered into an MCC drawing for a \$50 VISA card.
- 12) An Employee Health Fair will be offered November 3 in Founders Room. It will provide free biometric screening and flu shots to employees, spouses, and dependents covered by Anthem insurance. Classified staff biometric screenings and flu shots will also be covered. See an email from Jane Fries on October 4 for more information.
- 13) A pumpkin carving contest for staff will be held October 20 at 11 a.m. in Founders Room. Contact Brady Michel for details.
- 14) CACE events
 - a) Boulder International Film Festival with Film Critic Ewan Magie, October 12, 6:30 – 8:30 at the Historic Sands Theater in Brush.
 - b) Third Thursday Art Walk: October 19, Downtown Fort Morgan 4-7 p.m.
 - c) Greeley Chorale Concert, October 21, 6-7:30 p.m. Fort Morgan United Methodist Church
 - d) Impressionistic Landscapes Exhibit by Andrew Busch, October 5-November 9, Artist Reception October 5, 4-6 p.m. at the CACE Gallery of Fine Art.
 - e) October Author Events Online Livestream
 - i) Author Rick Steves, Europe Through the Back Door. October 10, 2-3 p.m.
 - ii) Author Ruth Ware, The IT Girl. October 18, 12-1 p.m.
 - iii) Author John Irving, A Prayer for Owen Meany. October 26, 5-6 p.m.

Notes by: Jane Fries, Assistant to the President